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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/743,960	05/11/2001	Detlef Lauk	R.35646	1639

7590

04/08/2004

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EXAMINER

ABRAMS, NEIL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 04/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/743,960	Applicant(s) LAUK ET AL.	
	Examiner Neil Abrams	Art Unit 2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ <u>2 sheets</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Title objected to as unclear; also reference to "interchangeable adapter" should be added to title.

Claims 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 7, line 5 recites "a connector plug", line 9 sets forth "the connector plug". However, it appears that the adapter is for connection to a "different plug" than that of line 5, the purpose of the adapters, as disclosed, being to enable use with plugs of varied types.

Japan patent applied below was cited by applicant in abstract form.

Claims 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto in view of Yu, admitted prior art (APA) Maue and Vollmer and Allaire.

Yamamoto figs. 6, 8, 9 discloses a motor housing 4, a socket 7 to which a plug may be connected and an interchangeable adapter 20 having contacts at 24 and 27, a plug being connectable to the contacts at 27. Yamamoto motor is for driving automotive power accessories, but is not shown as including gears. The use of gears is standard in motor and in fan housings as disclosed by ^{APA}~~ABA~~ spec. page 1 and by Yu. Obvious to include gears in Yamamoto housing 4.

For dependent claims since adapter 20 details are not clearly shown, it is urged that it would have been obvious to use adapter 20 but formed like those of Maue ~~at urged that it would have been obvious to use adapter 20 but formed like those~~

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of ~~Maue~~ at fig. 3, flat plate with tabs 24, 26 or ~~like~~ like 118 of Allaire. These are used mainly to show low ~~cost~~ manner of formation of adapters with components.

As an alternative basis of rejection, Yamamoto does not include an adapter for enabling use with different type plugs.

Vollmer at 12, 13, Maue and Allaire at 118 disclose use of adapter for enabling a single equipment interface to be used with different style or type cable plugs. Obvious to use such adapter in Yamamoto to enable that motor to be used with different types of cables as used in different styles of automobiles.

For dependent claims, also obvious to form Vollmer adapters in manner of Maue or Allaire adapters. Nor does recited shapes of adapter. *produce any new or unexpected result* Use of adapters for enabling equipment to be used with different types of electrical connectors is noted to be well known, Vollmer and Allaire being examples.

Claims 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan 10-225048 in view of admitted prior art (APA)).

Obvious ~~Europe~~ ^{Japan} motor could be a motor and gear type as is known in the APA. The motor has a socket with pins 67 connectable to a plug which could be similar to 71 or like 71, 72 combined. The part 72 is read as an interchangeable adapter.

Claims 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasting in view of APA, Allaire, Vollmer and Maue.

Hastings motor 1 includes a socket 4 for receiving a plug with ^a ~~an~~ circuit change ability. *part 1* Obvious ¹ could be motor-gear type as in APA. It is well known to use adapters

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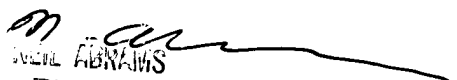
for such circuit changing or adaptation to different plugs as shown by Allaire, Vollmer and Maue.

It would have been obvious to form such type adapters for use in Hastings to change circuitry and enable use of the motor with different cable plugs.

Claims 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hastings in view of Houser.

Hastings includes motor with socket 4 and wire trap part 5 read as an adapter and used to modify circuitry in the motor. Hastings does not show a plug joined to part 5. Houser shows wires 40 joined to plug 60 for connection to wire traps. Obvious to use such a plug in Hauser to enable all wires to be joined at one time.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Abrams Neil at telephone number (571)272-2089.


NEIL ABRAMS
EXAMINER
ART UNIT 322